

VZCZCXR04496
OO RUEHDE RUEHROV RUEHTRO
DE RUEHNR #0986 1341451
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 141451Z MAY 09
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9539
INFO RUCNSOM/SOMALIA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RHMFIUU/CJTF HOA
RUZEFAA/CDR USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE
RUZEFAA/HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE
RHMFIUU/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL

UNCLAS NAIROBI 000986

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR AF/E AND A/S CARSON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PREL PTER KPAO SO

SUBJECT: SOMALIA - PRESS STATEMENT ON MOGADISHU VIOLENCE

Summary

¶1. (SBU) In response to the fighting in Mogadishu in recent days and reports of foreign fighters involved in the attacks, post released the press statement below to Somali media outlets on May ¶14. End Summary.

Press Statement

¶2. (U) The text of the press statement follows:

Begin text.

U.S. Embassy, Nairobi, Kenya

Press Release
May 14, 2009

U.S. Denounces Violence, Supports TFG

The Government of the United States condemns the recent attacks on the Transitional Federal Government in Mogadishu that have forced thousands of Somalis from their homes. The extremists who are instigating these attacks have no regard for the well-being of Somalis, and are undermining the peaceful efforts of the legitimate government to further national reconciliation.

The United States is particularly disturbed at reports that foreign fighters and those who rejected dialogue in 2006 are participating in this effort to forcibly remove a legitimate Somali government from power. The United States, in concert with the international community, strongly supports President Sharif and the TFG, and commends the important progress the TFG has made in the past several months.

End text.

RANNEBERGER